

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., February 16, 1899.

Mr. R. A. Hill,

Superintendent, Operative Department, Royal Mint,

London, England.

Dear Sir:

Dr. Whitehead, Assayer of this Bureau, informs me that at the time of his visit to the Royal Mint in 1895, you kindly offered to supply the Bureau of the Mint with such information as might be desired concerning the rolling plant then working so successfully in your institution. At the present time experiments are being conducted at the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, with a view to rolling the ingots without previous annealing, and as Dr. Whitehead reports this as the practice at present in your Mint, I should be very glad of any information based upon your experience as a Mint officer which would aid us in the solution of this problem. I would also consider it a favor if you could have a set of drawings of your rolls made at our expense, furnishing cost of building etc.

Silver Do you consider it practicable and preferable to roll ~~gold~~ ingots without annealing, and if so, have you experienced any difficulty in producing fillets free from cracks? I should also like your experience in rolling *Silver* ~~gold~~ ingots. Do you consider the brittleness of the ingot to be greatly influenced by the manner in which it is poured from the crucible? Can drawings of the

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weighing machines now in use at the Royal Mint, and which I believe are giving satisfaction, be furnished this Bureau at its expense?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy in the matter,

I am,

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George E. Roberts", written in a cursive style.

Director of the Mint.

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Do you consider it practicable and preferable to roll silver ingots without annealing, and if so, have you experienced any difficulty in producing fillets free from cracks? I should also like your experience in rolling silver ingots. Do you consider the brittleness of the ingot to be greatly influenced by the manner in which it is poured from the crucible? Can drawings of the weighing machines now in use at the Royal Mint, and which I believe are giving satisfaction, be furnished this Bureau at its expense?

Thanking you in advance for your courtesy in the matter, I am,

Respectfully yours,

[Signature] George E Roberts

Director of the Mint.